be ended without war at the first As for the future he conjectureth that if a foreign Prince be admitted, the Infanta of Spain is likest to bear away the prize , if, on the other side, one of the domestical competitors, the second son of the Earl of Hertford, or the issue of the Countess of Derby

z6tb December AN ATTEMPT TO MURDER THE FRENCH KING

From France it is reported that on iyth December a young man, one John Chastel, seminary of the Jesuit College at Claremont, attempted to murder the French King, piercing his cheek with a poniard, and breaking some of his teeth This Chastel has been tried and executed by the French Parliament, and their decree is now translated and published in English. He was condemned to go before the principal gate of the chief church in Pans, and there, naked to his shirt, with a burning torch of wax of the weight of two pounds, on his knees to acknowledge and confess that wretchedly and traitorously he had attempted the most inhuman and most abominable parricide, and that with a knife he wounded the King in the face Also that being falsely instructed and persuaded he had affirmed that it was lawful to kill the King, and that King Henry the Fourth, now reigning, was not in the Church until lie had received approbation of the Pope , whereof, and every part whereof, he repented and asked forgiveness of God

This done he was to be conveyed in a tumbril to the place called the Greve , there to have his arms and his thighs rent with burning pincers, and his right hand holding the knife wherewith he had endeavoured to have committed the parricide to be cut off Then his body to be drawn in sunder and dis-

membered by four horses, and his carcase and quarters cast into the fire, and so consumed into ashes, and the said ashes to be scattered in the wind Before the execution of this sentence he was to be put to the torture ordinary and extraordinary thereby to find out the truth of his confederates.

It was also ordained that all priests and scholars of the College of Claremont, and all others that entitled themselves to the Society of Jesus, as corrupters of youth, disturbers of common quietness, and enemies to the King and the State, should within three days after notice of this decree depart out of all towns and